3731

A-70829/ENB

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D. C. 20231, on February 25, 2002

Signature: *Laura Lee Mosier*

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OFFICE OF PETITIONS
MAR 07 2002
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: MARK D. MARKEL		Examiner:	to be assigned
		Group Art Unit:	3731
Serial No.	09/996,978		
Filed:	October 31, 2001		
For:	Method for Treating Tissue in Arthroscopic Environment	Date:	February 25, 2002

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT SUBMITTED PRIOR TO THE FIRST OFFICIAL ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is hereby submitted in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98 and pursuant to Applicant's continuing duty under 37 CFR 1.56 to bring any information which may be material to patentability of this application to the Examiner's attention.

Applicant submits herewith patents and publications which may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. While this Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication, or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such. A listing of patents and publications is shown on enclosed PTO Forms 08A and 08B and a copy of each patent and publication is also enclosed.

This information disclosure statement is being filed in compliance with 37 CFR 1.97(b)(3) before the mailing date of the first office action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward N. Bachand
Registration No. 37,085

FLEHR HOHBACH TEST
ALBRITTON & HERBERT LLP
Four Embarcadero Center, Suite 3400
San Francisco, California 94111-4187
Telephone: (650) 494-8700; Facsimile: (650) 494-8771
1067878